

HIS  
MAJESTIES  
ANSWER

TO A PETITION  
PRESENTED TO HIM

at *York, April 18. 1642* by the  
Earle of Stamford, &c. in the  
name of both Houses:

Concerning His Message  
lately sent to them, declaring  
His Resolution to give issue  
*Followed*

~~Printed by I. T. for L. T. 1642.~~

LONDON,  
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HIS  
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TO A PETITION  
PRESENTED TO HIM

at York, April 18. 1643 by the  
Earle of Stamford, &c. in the  
name of both Houses:

Concerning His Message  
largely sent to them, declaring  
His Resolution to goe into  
Ireland.



LONDON,  
Printed for A. T. and D. 1643.

# His Majesties Answer,

April 25. 1606.



are so troubled and astonished to find them-  
 selves expected reception and misunderstanding of  
 Our Message of the eighteenth of April, con-  
 sidering Our Irish Journey, that being so much  
 disappointed of the approbation and thanks  
 We looked for to that Declaration, Wee have great cause to  
 doubt, whether it bee in Our power to say or doe any thing  
 which shall not fall within the like interpretation. But as Wee  
 have in that Message called God to witness the sincerity of the  
 profession of Our onely Ends for the undertaking that Jour-  
 ney, So Wee must appeale to all Our good Subjects, and the  
 whole World, whether the Reasons alledged against that  
 Journey bee of weight to falsifie Our understanding, or the  
 counsell presented to dissuade Vs from it, be full of that dore  
 as is like to prevail over Our affection.  
 For our resolving of so great a thing without the advice  
 of our Parliament, Wee must remember you how often by  
 our Messages we made the same offer, if you should advise us  
 thereunto. To which you never gave us the least answer.  
 But in your late Declaration told us, that ye were not to bee  
 satisfied with words, so that we had reason to conceive you  
 rather avoided (out of regard to one person) to give us coun-  
 sell to run that hazard, than that you disapproved the intem-  
 perance. And what greater comfort or satisfaction can the Protest-  
 ants of Christendome receive, than by seeing a Protestant King  
 venture and engage his person for the defence of that profession  
 and the suppression of popery, to which we solemnly profes-  
 sed in that Message, neither to grant a toleration, upon what  
 pretences soever, or an abolition of any of the Lawes there in  
 force

for against the Rebels, &c. And when we consider the  
great calamities, and unheard of cruelties our poore protes-  
tants Subjects in that Kingdom have undergone the space of  
neer, or full six moneths, the growth and encrease of the  
strength of those barbarous Rebels, and the evident probabi-  
lities of foreign supplies, (if they are not speedily suppressed)  
the very slow succours hitherto sent them from hence. That  
the Officers of severall Regiments, who have long since been  
allowed entertainment from you for that service, have receiv-  
ed any supply or succour for his Kingdom. That many thousands  
of horse have long lien near Chester without pay. That the  
Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, on whose service we are principally  
for the conducting and managing of affairs there, is still in this King-  
dom, notwithstanding our earnest desire expressed that he  
should repair to his command. And when we consider the  
many and great scandals raised upon our selfe by report of the  
Rebells, and not sufficiently discomenured here, notwithstanding  
so many professions of Ours. And had seen a Book  
lately printed by the Order of the House of Commons, entitled;  
*A Remonstrance of divers remarkable passages concerning the  
Church and Kingdom of Ireland*, wherein some examinations are  
set down, which (how probable or impossible soever) may  
make an impression in the mindes of many of our weak Sub-  
jects. And lastly, when VVe duly weigh the dishonour which  
will perpetually lie upon this Kingdom, if full and speedy re-  
liefe be not dispatched thither. We could, nor cannot think of  
a better way to discharge Our duty to Almighty God, for the  
defence of the true Protestant profession, or to manifest Our  
affection to Our three Kingdomes for their preservation, than  
by engaging Our Person in this expedition. As many of Our  
Royall progenies have done, even in Foreign parts, upon  
causes of less Importance and peril, with great honour to  
themselves, and advantage to the Kingdoms. And therefore  
We expected at least thanks for such Our Inclination.

For The danger to Our Person, We cannot receive any and  
worthy

worthy of a King to adventure His life to preserve His Kingdom, neither can it be imagined, that We will sit still, and suffer Our Kingdoms to be lost, and Our good Protestant Subjects to be massacred, without exposing Our owne Person to the utmost hazard for their relief and preservation: Our life when it was most pleasant, being nothing so precious to Us, as it is, and shall be to govern and preserve Our people with Honour and Justice.

For any encouragement to the Rebels, because of the reports they raised, We cannot conceive that the Rebels are capable of a greater terror, then by the presence of their Lawfull King in the head of an Army to chastise them: Beside, it will be an unspeakable advantage to them, if any reports of theirs could hinder Vs from doing any thing which were fit for us to do, if such reports were not raised: This would quickly reach them, in this jealous age, to prevent by such reports any other persons coming against them, whom they had no more should be so employed.

We marvel that the adventurers, whose advantage was a principall Motive (next the reason before mentioned) to Us, should so much mistake Our purpose, whose Interest We conceive must be much improved by the expedition we hope (by Gods blessing) to use in this Service: this being the most probable way for the speedy Conquest of the Rebels: Their Lands are sufficiently secured by Act of Parliament.

We thinke not Our selfe kindly used, That the addition of so few men to your Leavies (for a Guard to Our Person in *Ireland*) should be thought fit for your refusal: and much more, that having used so many Cautions in this Message, both in the businesse of the number: In Our having raised none until your Answer: In their being to be raised onely neer their place of Shipping: In their being there to be Armed, and that not till they were ready to be Shipped: In the provision, by the Oaths, that none of them should be Papists (all which appears sufficient to destroy all grounds of jealousy of any force intended

tended by them in opposition to the Parlianent; or favour to any malignant partie) any suspicion should notwithstanding be grounded upon it.

Neither can it be understood, That when Wee recommended the Managing of that War to you, that Wee intended to exclude Our selfe, or not to bee concerned in your counsels, That if We found any expedient (which in Our conscience or understanding Wee thought necessary for that great worke) We might not put it in practise. Wee looke upon you as Our great Counsell, whose advice Wee alwaies have and will (with great regard and deliberation) weigh and consider: But Wee looke upon Our selfe, as neither deprived of Our understanding, or devested of any right We had, if there were no Parliament sitting. We called you together by Our owne Writ and Authority (without which you could not have met) to give Vs faithfull Counsell about Our great Affaires: But Wee resigne not up Our owne Interest and Freedome. Wee never subjected Our selfe to your absolute determination. Wee have alwaies weighed your Counsels, as proceeding from a Body entrusted by Vs: And when Wee have dissented from you, We have returned you the Reasons, which have prevailed with our conscience and understanding, with that Candor as a Prince should use towards his Subjects; and that Affection, which a father can expresse to his children. What application hath bene used to rectifie Our understanding by reasons, or what Motives have been given to perswade Our Affections, We leave all th: World to judge. And then Wee must tell you, howsoever a Major part may binde yon in matter of opinion, Wee hold Our selfe (and Wee are sure the Law, and the Constitution of the Kingdome hath alwaies held the same) as free to dissent (till Our Reason be convinced for the generall Good) as if you delivered no Opinion.

For Our Iourney it selfe, The circumstances of your Petition are such, as Wee know not well what answer to returne, or

what



whether we Were best to give any. That part which pretends  
to carry reason with it, doth no way satisfie Vs : The other,  
which is rather reprehension and Menace, then advice, cannot  
flagger Vs Our Answer therefore is, That We shall bee very  
glad to finde the worke of *Ireland* so easie as you seeme to finde  
it; which did not so appeare by any thing knowne to Vs, when  
VVe sent Our Message. And though wee will never refuse, or  
be unwilling to venture Our person for the good and safetie of  
Our Peoples. VVe are not so weary of Our life, as to hazard it  
impertinently. And therefore since you seeme to have recei-  
ved Advertisements of some and great Successes in that King-  
dome, VVe will stay some time to see the event of those, and  
not pursue this Resolution, till VVee have given you a second  
Notice. But if VVee finde the miserable Condition of Our  
poore Subjects of that Kingdome, bee not speedily releaved;  
VVee will (with Gods assistance) visit them with succours, as  
Our particular Credit and Interest can supply Vs with, if you  
refuse to ioyne with Vs. And VVee doubt not but the Lea-  
vies VVee shall make (in which VVee will observe punctually  
the former, and all other Cautions, as may best prevent all  
Feares and Icalousies, and to use no power but what is Legall)  
will be so much to the satisfaction of Our Subjects, as no per-  
son will dare to profane to resist Our Commands, and if they  
should, at their perill. In the meane time VVe hope Our for-  
wardnesse, so remarkable for that service, shall be notorious to  
all the world, and that all scandalls laid on Vs in that Businesse,  
shall be clearly wiped away. *And therefore*  
VVee were so careful that Our Iohnney into *Ireland* should  
not interrupt the proceedings of Parliament, nor deprive Our  
Subjects of any Acts of Justice, or further Acts of Grace, for  
the reall benefit of Our People; That VVee made a Free offer  
of leaving such power behind, as should not onely be necessary  
for the Peace and safety of the Kingdomes, but fully provide  
for the happie Progresse of the Parliament. And there-  
fore

the before We cannot but wonder, since such Power hath  
Yeene alwaies left here by Commission for the Governement  
of this Kingdom, when Our Progenitors have bene out of the  
same during the sitting of Parliaments: and since your selves  
desired that such a Power might be left here by Vs, at Our last  
going into *Scotland*: what Law of the Land have you now  
found to dispence with you, from submitting to such Authori-  
ty Legally derived from Vs in Our absence, and to inable you  
to Govern this Kingdom, by your own more Authoritie?

For Our return towards *London*, We have given you so full  
an Answer in Our late Declaration, and in Answer to your Re-  
vition presented to Us at *Tork* the 26. of *March* last, that We  
know not what to adde, if you will not provide for Our Se-  
curity with you, nor agree to remove to another Place, where  
there may not be the same danger to Us: We expected that  
(since We have been so particular in the Causes and Grounds  
of Our Fears) you should have sent Us word, that you had pub-  
lished such Declarations against future Tumults, and unlaw-  
full Assemblies, and taken such Courses for the Suppressing  
of Seditious Sermons and Pamphlets, that Our Fears of that  
kind might be laid aside, before you should presse Our return.

To Conclude, We could wish that you would (with the  
same strictnesse and severity) weigh and examine your Messages  
and expressions to Us: For We are very confident, that if you  
examine Our Rights and Priviledges, by what Our Predecess-  
ours have enjoyed, and your own addresses, by the usuall  
Courses of your Ancestors: yee will find many expressions in  
this Petition, warranted onely by your Authority, which in-  
deed We forbore to take notice of, or to give Answer to, lest  
We should be tempted (in a just indignation) to expresse a  
greater passion, then We are yet willing to put on. God in his  
good time (We hope) will so informe the hearts of all Our  
Subjects, that We shall recover from the mischief and danger  
of this distemper: On whose good pleasure We will wait  
with all patience and humilitie.

FINIS.



